



STATE OF MINNESOTA

Office of Governor Tim Pawlenty

130 State Capitol ♦ 75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard ♦ Saint Paul, MN 55155

June 9, 2010

The Honorable Julius Genachowski
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

I write regarding your proposal to reclassify broadband services under Title II of the Communications Act of 1934.

I support an open Internet and expanded broadband access. The Minnesota Ultra High-Speed Broadband Commission set a goal of high-speed broadband access statewide by 2015. The Commission's work resulted in legislation I signed into law in April, 2010, requiring Minnesota to be a leader in many aspects of broadband. That legislation positions Minnesota to be among the top five states in the nation for broadband access and broadband speed universally accessible to residents and businesses, and among the top 15 in broadband accessibility when compared to countries globally.

Increased availability of broadband is crucial to economic development and has already positively impacted Minnesota businesses, hospitals, K-12 schools, universities, local units of government, and many more. Continuing to enhance broadband accessibility is a goal we share. However, the significant regulatory move you have proposed could threaten innovation and investment, and harm consumers. Any effort to significantly amend and broaden these regulations should be considered by Congress, not unelected federal commissioners.

The proposed regulations could create uncertainty among potential investors by increasing the FCC's regulatory ability over broadband rates and services. Implementation of the proposed regulatory structure would also contradict

Chairman Genachowski

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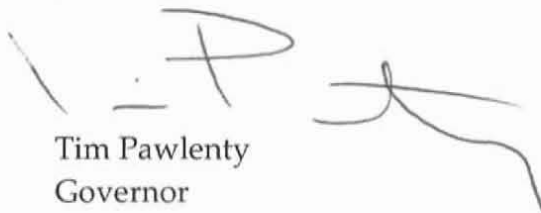
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efforts to incentivize innovation, economic growth, and job creation. The one-size-fits-all approach being considered by the FCC would suppress private investment and hurt job growth.

Minnesota has a long tradition of innovation. I am hopeful that you and the Commission will reconsider the stifling impact on innovation an unwise government reclassification of broadband would have on our state and the nation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Tim Pawlenty
Governor

cc: Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Commissioner Robert M. McDowell
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker